

## Jersey Man Advocates Tax Equalization

"Taxation" was the subject of an interesting talk by Andrew H. Kenney who is president of the Somerset County, N. J., taxation board and also a member of the state organization of county boards, at the weekly luncheon of the Norwich Rotary club held at the Wauwona hotel Wednesday.

Mr. Kenney, who is thoroughly versed in the subject of taxation, said that everybody spoke of taxation as one of the big problems in civic affairs but said he did not consider it so. Everywhere there is a system all his own and no doubt the situation is the same here as everywhere. In New Jersey we have several boards to take care of the taxation and I understand Norwich has both a city and town tax. In New Jersey one assessment covers everything county, state, municipal and school expenses.

The question comes, What do we tax for? I believe that in taxation we get more for our money than in any other way to spend it. But we have more trouble and criticism in spending this money raised by tax than the majority of business enterprises have in a hundred years. A large amount of the criticism is unseasonable and unfair when we consider that we pay more for folly,

pride and foolishness than we do in taxation. In paying a \$100 tax we pay about \$50 for schools and education and \$50 for the other things such as police and fire protection, but we make more fuss over this \$100 than all the other things that the average man pays for.

The main difficulty, I believe, is that of equalization.

The average tax-payer asks, "Do I pay more than my neighbor?" Is what I pay just? And in the percentage of cases under the present system there is to be paid for the man. The assessor who is elected by the people is more or less influenced by the voter, so that a good faith, a little is sliced off his list. There are two concrete examples in this same town. One man owns property valued at \$100,000 and paying an income tax of \$100,000 and another man owns a little eight room house valued at \$3,000. But the man who owns the \$100,000 property only pays about 5 per cent. of the income of the property while the little fellow has to cash in about 25 per cent. of the income from his property whether he lives in the house or whether he rents it. This is what causes a large amount of dissatisfaction and the only remedy is equalization.

A way I should suggest which has

worked out favorably in other places is in basing the tax rate on the earnings of a property. Of course this would not apply to all cases but it would make a much more equal taxation than the present way. A large number of people object to a large tax list and seem to prefer a high tax rate on low valuation. People should get back of a movement to get property up to a fair valuation if everyone is to pay a just tax rate. It may come hard at first but if the average man knows he is paying no more than his neighbors he will get used to it. This is a matter that should have the consideration of every citizen in your town.

Mr. Kenney who was brought here by C. P. Wells was given a rising vote of appreciation for his talk.

There was a very large attendance at the meeting at which Lucius Briggs, president of the club, presided. Louis A. Wheeler acted as song leader. Two delightful solos were rendered by Henry J. La Fontaine and there were several quartette selections and a ditty dedicated to George W. Carroll sung at the meeting.

Secretary Weymouth read a communication from the International Brotherhood from the local club to the Public Relief Fund. An invitation was received from Susan Executive P. A. Benson of the members of the Rotary club to make use of the Boy Scout camp at Beach Pond for two days, August 1 and 2. A letter from William G. Park, the local delegate

to the Edinburgh convention, was read by the secretary.

Russell Smith, chairman of the entertainment committee, announced that the first three meetings during August would be in charge of Charles J. Twist, John J. McLaughlin and Timothy C. Murphy. Mr. Murphy is at present in Colorado where he has attended several of the Rotary meetings in the west.

The meeting closed with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.

### PROSPECTS SEEM SLIM FOR JITNEY OPERATORS

There is small probability that jitneys will be operating in this state after Thursday except on those few lines where the public utilities commission has granted certificates under the law passed at the recent session of the general assembly. For the past few days there has been some talk to the effect that the jitneys could keep on running while the appeals which several operators have taken were awaiting a hearing before the superior court but as the day on which the new law goes into effect approaches the prospect of jitney rides in Connecticut diminishes rapidly.

A simple appeal to the superior court will not act as a suspension of the law in any sense as it is a well established rule that a law is constitutional until it is declared unconstitutional and Motor Vehicle Commissioner Robbins B. Stoekel, who is

also a member of the newly created state police commission, said Wednesday that the police department would enforce the law to the best of its ability on the day it goes into effect. Commissioner Stoekel also said that the inspector of the motor vehicle department would co-operate with the state police in every way to enforce the law.

When asked whether he thought an injunction could be taken out by any of the jitney men to halt the operation of the law, Commissioner Stoekel said that he did not believe such an injunction could be obtained.

Members of the public utilities commission were not at all apprehensive of the outcome of the decision which they have made, barring so many jitneys from the highways of this state. Commissioner Joseph W. Alsop pointed out that the commission was acting under a state law which clearly defined its authority and he said that the commission was not undertaking to enforce the law in any way.

"Enforcement belongs to another department of the state government," said Commissioner Alsop.

When we asked what effect an injunction would have, the commissioner said that he did not see how one could be issued against the commission as it had simply refused to grant certificates in certain cases.

"The law says that jitneys shall not operate without certificates," said Commissioner Alsop. "Now if any jit-

ney drivers attempt to operate without a certificate they are simply violating a plain law of the state and that is all there is to it. In any event, this commission has done its duty under the law."

The public utilities has about 50 applications for certificates which have been filed since the last hearing was held and further hearings will have to be held on some of these. Others can be decided on the basis of decisions already made by the commission.

It was pointed out at the office of the commission that in case an appeal is taken to the superior court on the issue of the finding of the commission in a particular case, the result will have no bearing on the general situation throughout the state.

Within a few days the state motor vehicle commission will send to the police officials of every city in the state a summary of the law and Commissioner Stoekel said that he expected adequate co-operation from all local police authorities to make the restrictions of the law effective.

Meanwhile, with the prospect of no jitneys after the 14th of this month depending to a certainty, the general public is becoming more and more interested in the possibility of lower fares on the trolley cars. When questioned as to this in New Haven President Storrs of the Connecticut company said that he could hold out no hopes for an immediate reduction, though he could promise an improvement in the service now that the "unfair competition" had been eliminated. President Storrs said that when the fare was raised from 7 to 10 cents November 1, 1920, it had produced just about enough revenue to pay expenses. He said that he hoped that the company would now be able to turn its attention to the matter of reducing rates and that it would depend on the amount of patronage the company receives.

### SIX STORRS HENS DIED FROM HEAT LAST WEEK

Last week's exceedingly hot weather was not conducive to good egg production. As a matter of fact, there were six deaths due to heat prostration, including a White Rock and a Rhode Island Red from Connecticut, a Leghorn and a Light Brahma from Massachusetts and two Leghorns from New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Mild cases of heat prostration can be treated by applying cold water to the head and keeping the bird in a cool, quiet place. It is better, however, to prevent this trouble by seeing that the birds are not overcrowded in hot weather and that they are provided with an abundance of natural shade. Breeders who are trap nesting their hens are the ones most likely to have trouble of this sort. For this kind of poultryman Professor Halpin of the University of Wisconsin believes the best remedy consists in carrying, on very hot days, a pail of water into which every hen that shows the least sign of being affected by the heat can be promptly "dunked" as she is removed from the trap nest.

During the 56th week of the laying contest the hens at Storrs were expected to lay a little more than 3,500 eggs, but instead they dropped to 3,534 eggs, or a yield of a little over 51 per cent. They are still 6,000 eggs ahead of the average for the last six years and both the management and the contestants are anxious to see them keep the pace and set a new high mark for the year. Obed G. Knight's pen of White Wyandottes from Bridgeport, R. I., was in first place for the week with 55 eggs. Two pens of Leghorns entered by W. E. Atkinson from Wallingford, Conn., and the Yates Farm from Orchard Park, N. Y., tied for second place with 44 eggs each. Two additional Leghorn pens owned by Jack Trevelthan of Vineland, N. J., and Orchard Hill Farm at Sandy Creek, N. J., tied for third place with 33 eggs each. Two pens of Leghorns from Elizabeth, N. J., another from Irvington, N. J., and one from Cooperstown, N. Y., all tied for fourth place with 32 eggs each.

The four leading pens in each of the principal varieties are as follows:

**Plymouth Rocks.**  
W. H. B. Kent (Barred), Casano-  
via, N. Y. .... 1484  
Rock Rose Farm (Barred), Easton,  
N. H. .... 1283  
Jules P. Francals (Barred Rocks),  
Westhampton Beach, L. I. .... 1191  
James P. Macdonald (White Rocks),  
East Pomfret, Mass. .... 1147

**Rhode Island Reds.**  
Charles H. Lane, Southboro, Mass. 1492  
H. S. Bickford, Coarville, N. H. .... 1258  
Henry P. Walker, Hudson, Mass. .... 1245  
F. S. Chapin, Longmeadow, Mass. .... 1241

**White Leghorns.**  
L. E. Ingoldby, Cooperstown, N. Y. 1505  
Hollywood Farm, Hollywood, Wash. 1498  
Jack Trevelthan, Vineland, N. J. .... 1458  
Ernest H. Scott, Farmington, Conn. 1415

**Other Varieties.**  
Obed G. Knight (White Wyandottes),  
Bridgeport, R. I. .... 1527  
H. P. Cloyes (Buff Wyandottes),  
Silver Lane, Conn. .... 1283  
A. E. Hampton (Black Leghorns),  
Pittstown, N. J. .... 1157  
Harry D. Emmons (White Wyandottes),  
Plymouth, Conn. .... 1064

### Baise Fine for Passing Trolley

Police court fines attached to the finding of persons guilty of the charge of driving automobiles past standing trolley cars have been raised from a \$10 minimum to a \$25 minimum, according to a notification which has been sent to Prosecuting Attorney Daniel M. Cronin of New London. Prosecuting Attorney Cronin stated that this new ruling would be effective at once and in the future all persons found guilty of this charge would find that the expense connected with this type of violation would be considerably larger than in the past.

### Famous Wrestler Wants To Wrestle Zbyszko

According to Caswell he asked Doherty to return the machine and when the latter refused to do so, he (Caswell) and Geer went to the Doherty farm where they found the machine locked. Caswell removed the lock and took the machine to his home. Doherty learned of the matter, and took it up with his attorney, Morris E. Leback, who had warrants issued for the two men.

### Guide for Autos at Bad Turns

The state highway department has evidently inaugurated a new scheme in an effort to prevent automobile collisions on dangerous corners on the trunk line highways. At least there is this indication on a curve just east of the Waterford trolley car barn. A white line with an arrow at either end, and extending from the straightaway on either side of the curve has been painted directly in the center of the roadway. The intent is to direct the driver of a vehicle to keep to the right of this line and thus avoid a machine coming in the opposite direction.

### Suspect Case of Measles

Margaret Doty of Niantic, 16 months old, was admitted to the contagious ward at the hospital in New London Wednesday morning as a suspicious measles case. The child was originally a patient at the Lawrence and Memorial hospitals, where she showed the symptoms of measles and she was immediately removed to the contagious ward. The case was reported to the health department.

### Collinsville—Miss Doty White of

New Britain, daughter of Prof. Marcus White, principal of the state normal school, is a guest for a few days of Mrs. Lillian Star King.

### LIQUOR SEIZED IN RAID AT GROTON CANDY STORE

Another successful raid in Groton was made on alleged liquor selling establishments by the Groton police Wednesday night, when the candy and ice cream store and the Public garage which is reported to be owned by Harry Zavaras and Sparrow, Samuel Kaverer of Easton Point road, both located opposite the Groton Iron Works on the Eastern Point road. Captain George O. Vinton led the raid, assisted by Officer Charles E. Yering and Officer Harry McCracken, after the places had been under surveillance about an hour. The accused were released on bonds provided by Camille Sanacroc of Eastern Point road. Zavaras' bond was placed at \$1,000 and Kaverer's at \$500 for appearance in town court.

Some time ago the police received a tip from a woman that the place was a liquor selling establishment, but the police did not discover sufficient cause to place the owners under arrest until Monday night when an employee of the Groton hotel at Eastern Point was seen to come out of the place apparently under the influence of liquor. As he was approaching the hotel grounds he threw a fit as he was described, and it was only through medical attention he was saved from becoming possibly seriously ill.

With this information the police went to Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Morris Lubchansky, who made out search warrants for the candy store and garage. After watching the place for an hour the police, armed with the search warrants, entered the place and began their search.

First they found in an old range a bottle of alleged liquor. In the store room in the rear, underneath a pile of tin plates pots and other articles, 12 quart bottles of alleged whiskey, which bore the famous Old Green River label and a gallon of alleged liquor was found in an olive oil can. A jug of burnt sugar and a gallon can of alleged pure alcohol, full, and another gallon can partly filled, were discovered in another place. Behind a counter a plain bottle of Italian Franzos Blitters, which bore on its label, 55 per cent. alcohol, was found. Also there was a barrel which contained five gallons of alleged wine. The police reported that all the alleged liquors taken average 40 to 50 per cent. alcohol and 150 proof alcohol in tests they made. The accused offered no resistance upon their arrest.

### WINDHAM COUNTY DOCTORS HOLD LIQUOR PRESCRIPTION RECORD

Windham county, as rural a county as the state contains, is gaining the reputation of being the heaviest "regular" liquor consuming section of the state, says the Hartford Times, if the manner in which some of the country doctors at that section of the state are stringing their allowance under the prohibition law of prescribing not more than 100 pills in as many prescriptions, may be taken as an index.

Returns at the office of Prohibition Director Julius C. Stremlau indicate that Windham county doctors are in a class by themselves in the way they exhaust, sometimes in advance of the allotted time of three months, the 100 permits or prescriptions allotted them by the prohibition director. Each doctor in the state is allowed a prescription book containing 100 liquor prescription blanks, no prescription to exceed one pill, and a stub of the blank remains in the book and is returned with the book to the prohibition director.

Many physicians do not use one such booklet of blanks in a year but put in Windham county, some of the country doctors exhaust their allotment in six or eight weeks. Inquiry has revealed that it is not to be ascribed so much to the preference of doctors to prescribe liquor as medicine but that the strong demand is due to the "tastes" of patients who insist that this be treated only by a liquor prescription. Consequently the doctor's hand is forced, and as the law permits him to use 100 liquor prescriptions every three months, he goes the limit thereby aiding the mental suggestion of his patients.

Another reason why some rural residents are leaning heavily on the doctor's liquor prescription blanks is their inability to procure many "investigative, cure-all" patent medicines, whose alcoholic content put them under the ban when prohibition went into effect.

Mr. Stremlau has recommended to Internal Revenue Collector Eaton that the internal revenue license of \$100 be collected from 50 or more wholesale liquor dealers who still have liquor on hand for commercial purposes after July 1, the beginning of the new fiscal year in the prohibition department. If this recommendation is carried out it will probably mean that the wholesalers who hold limited quantities of liquor will sell this in a hurry in order to avoid paying the license fee. They have been informed that the law requires such a license if they carry the liquor.

### WATERFORD JUSTICE HEARS MOWING MACHINE THEFT CASE

On charges of theft of a mowing machine valued at \$25, preferred by Robert R. Doherty of Jordan Village, Charles Caswell, and N. Elbert Geer, both of Waterford, were arraigned before Justice Thomas F. Morton in Waterford Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and after a long hearing, Caswell was found guilty and fined \$5 and costs, while Geer was found not guilty and discharged, due to lack of sufficient evidence to connect him with the offense. Attorney Waller, counsel for Caswell, took an appeal and the accused furnished bonds for his appearance before the court of common pleas.

The mowing machine was originally the property of Caswell, who sold it to Doherty for \$15.50. According to the latter, he worked out \$14 of this amount and was to pay the remaining \$1.50 but said that Caswell would not take it. Caswell claimed that he loaned the machine to Doherty, but admitted that the latter had worked seven hours for him and estimated that such labor was worth about \$7.

According to Caswell he asked Doherty to return the machine and when the latter refused to do so, he (Caswell) and Geer went to the Doherty farm where they found the machine locked. Caswell removed the lock and took the machine to his home. Doherty learned of the matter, and took it up with his attorney, Morris E. Leback, who had warrants issued for the two men.

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Famous Chalmers Balbriggan Combined Egyptian Underwear — regular \$1.00 quality.

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# The Manhattan

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